

# Wright Building Grand Opening

By Adam Swift

The sun was shining as over a hundred people turned out on Sunday to take part in the opening ceremonies for the renovated Wright Building.

Formerly the home of the library, the town-owned building now houses the new Duxbury Student Union and the Duxbury Rural and Historical Society's Drew Archives.

"It was fabulous, it was everything it should have been," said Selectman Betsy Sullivan.

Local and state officials, including state representatives Daniel Webster and Thomas Calter, were on hand

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## Bob Hale Honored at Wright Opening

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to celebrate the opening, which also featured tours of the building.

Duxbury Rural and Historical Society Executive Director Patrick Browne said the building is a perfect place to consolidate the society's extensive archives.

In addition to the opening celebration on Saturday, the DR&HS held a reception for donors and society members at the new archives on Friday evening. Longtime historical society member Bob Hale was honored with the naming of the rotunda of the renovated Wright Building in his honor.

"I was totally overwhelmed," said Hale. "I had no idea any such thing was going to be done. I'm very honored."

Town Manager Richard MacDonald thanked the contractors and architects who helped make the renovation possible, and had special praise for two people involved on the town side of the project.

"Joe Grady did a great job representing the Community Preservation Committee throughout the process," said MacDonald.

He also singled out Department of Public Works Director Tom Daley for praise.

"He was deeply involved in the project and did yeoman's work at the same time he was overseeing a 40 person department," MacDonald said.

While the archives offi-



The DR&HS honored Bob Hale, shown here with his wife, Liddy, by naming the rotunda after him.

Photo by Julius Prince

cially opened to the public on Monday morning, the Duxbury Student Union has been in operation since the summer.

Student Union Director Josh Donohoe thanked those who helped make the new recreation center for middle and high school students a reality. The Duxbury Student Union Association partnered with Crossroads for Kids to bring the project to fruition.

"This is really a good exposure for us to the people in the community," Donohoe said.

The DR&HS archives are open to the public from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday. The reading room of the archive was redone to look much like the library's reading room did in 1909.

The archives are home to a number of collections from noted Duxbury families as well as thousands of turn-of-the-century photographs.

"I bet it didn't even look this good in 1909," said Sullivan.

The student union has three levels, including administrative offices, a game room for students, and a kitchen area.